THE
KINEMATOGRAPH
And LANTERN WEEKLY
Incorporating The Optical Lantern Journal and The Magic Lantern Journal.

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The Kinematograph and Lantern Weekly was the first journal published devoted to motion pictures and is recognised as the authority on all trade matters.

It has agents and correspondents in and is circulated throughout the world.

The subscription is 6/6 per annum post free.

Advertisements and news for current issue must be received by Tuesday to ensure insertion.

Contributions, interesting items, etc., invited and paid for at the usual rates.

Advertisers should note that our journal covers the whole field: manufacturer, factor, exhibitor, etc., and that announcements are read by *everyone* interested in the trade.

The Film Crisis.

The number of letters we have received asking for particulars of the trade meeting which was to have been held to-day, serves to show that the existence of a crisis in the industry is at last realised by the showmen, many of whom were at one time disposed to regard the schemes of the manufacturers to alter some of the present methods of the industry with contemptuous indifference. Now one and all are anxious to learn if the meeting (which it will be remembered was suggested by Mr. Robert W. Paul at the trade dinner as the best method of closing a discussion which promised to mar a festive occasion) was to be an open one, as they were desirous of attending and had received no invitation.

Until a few days ago, it was understood that this meeting, which it will be remembered was designed in order to afford manufacturers and buyers an opportunity of talking over their differences in a friendly spirit, would certainly be held; indeed, as late as yesterday several manufacturers informed us that arrangements had been made that a perfectly open meeting—open, that is to say, to bona-fide members of the trade who would be admitted on presenting cards—would be held on February 25th, the postponement being due to the absence from England of a leading manufacturer. On the point of going to press, however, a telephone message reaches us from Mr. Jury, who had been asked to undertake the arrangements, stating that the meeting had been abandoned entirely.

If the opinions held in London trade circles may be taken as an indication, showmen and hirers welcomed this opportunity for a full discussion of the many matters in dispute, and of learning what shape the changes in the trade about which there had been so many conflicting rumours were to take, and the correspondence we have received supports this desire on the part of film buyers to learn definitely what the makers have arranged for their future. Apparently, however, the latter prefer not to divulge their plans until they have been thoroughly matured. We cannot blame them for this obvious piece of policy, but we may still be allowed to express the opinion that the dropping of the meeting was a pity from every point of view, particularly when it is remembered that it was arranged at the suggestion of the manufacturers themselves.

Now that this opportunity for a clear statement of what the manufacturers intend has been lost, the curiosity in the trade on this point will be, if possible, more acute than ever. We do not feel inclined to adopt in this connection a prophetic rôle, which, always fraught with danger, is particularly risky in this case, where apparently even among the manufacturers themselves there is no absolute knowledge of the final shape which the proposed agreement is to take.

One thing, however, may be regarded as certain. An agreement of some sort or another will be propounded. The showman who imagines that the jealousies between the various manufacturing firms will lead to the failure of any scheme that may be formulated is likely to be bitterly disillusionised. It would be idle to deny that such jealousies exist, but at the present time the points of agreement between the makers are far more numerous than their differences, and the outcome of the Paris Congress, which was practically unanimous, should prepare the English showmen for possibly radical changes in the trade of this country.

At present there are undoubtedly two parties in the English trade, one composed of practically every manufacturer, the other of renters and exhibitors and (possibly) one or two manufacturers. The best hope for a permanent settlement of the difficulties of the trade lie in each of these parties realising, in Mr. W. F. Jury's phrase, that they cannot expect to have all the breast of the turkey. A very little consideration on either side would pave the way to a friendly arrangement, and such an arrangement we hope to be able to announce at no distant date.

In the ranks of the hirers there has been a considerable amount of anxiety as to certain intentions with which the makers are credited of abolishing the sales of films outright and substitute a system of renting. Some misunderstanding seems to have been occasioned by the use of the term "renting," which some people are of opinion means that manufacturers will in future entirely cut off the supplies of the hiring houses and rent direct to the showmen, while others assert that the term is applied to a system by which a film is sold at 4d. per foot on condition that it be returned after sixteen weeks' use. The latter can hardly be called renting, and the principle of a limited life for the films will probably have to be eventually accepted, whether on a basis of sixteen weeks or a longer period by the showman.

EDISON FILMS

The Edison idea in film making is to produce subjects that hold the attention by reason of their cleverness

THEY ARE HIGH-CLASS AND THEY PLEASE

They are never coarse, or suggestive. Some thrill, others amuse; all are the kind that appeal on the strength of high quality

Exhibitors who show them

draw big crowds and are satisfied. New subjects made each week

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One always associates Spain with love, romance, gay and dashing bull fighters and dreamy-eyed senoritas. Our story takes us to the province of Old Madrid. Tells of the meeting of a poor but beautiful peasant girl and a famous bull fighter, their elopement and marriage.

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A series of adventures of an over-modest young man who starts a crusade against all sights that offend his shrinking nature. Picture postcards, posters, even a baby being bathed upsets him, until his friends take him in hand and cure him of his peevishness.

No. 6417 **Code "Vengativos."** **Length 890 feet.**

Write for descriptive Circulars.

EDISON MANUFACTURING CO., LIMITED

Edison Works,

100 VICTORIA ROAD, WILLESDEN, LONDON, N.W.

BRITISH MUSEUM

In view of the conclusions arrived at at the Paris Convention and detailed in a letter from K.M.A. members which appeared in our last issue, it is hardly possible to doubt that what the manufacturers have in view is such a system of limited sale. That is to say the buyer binds himself to return the film for destruction after a fixed period of use. There is something more than a rumour to the effect that Messrs. Pathe and others will cut off sales absolutely from March 1st, and try renting direct to the showmen. The statement lacks official confirmation, and we give it for what it is worth. Against this statement must be put the opinion, held to our knowledge by at least four firms, against the manufacturers becoming renters. As one of them put it to us: "You may rest assured that I have no intention of abandoning sales or starting a renting department." We do not think there is any doubt that the majority of the English trade are of this opinion, so that the elimination of the present renting houses, which it has been stated to be one of the objects of the Congress, is hardly likely to come about.

It is an open secret that following the meetings of manufacturers the renters and exhibitors have met in their turn. What decision was arrived at is not within our knowledge and the exhibitors will probably not disclose their plan until they have had an opportunity of considering the proposals made by the manufacturers. Wild statements in plenty were to be met with during the week, however, as to what would be done if circumstances made a struggle inevitable. On the one hand it was freely stated that the makers could "freeze out" the showmen by refusing to supply them with films until they signed the agreement; on the other, that the showmen by abstaining from buying for six months or so, would compel the makers to modify their terms. It is to be hoped that things will not come to such a pass as to make it necessary for the parties to test each other's financial strength in this manner.

Buyers assert that with the films at present in stock they can keep running for six months, and that during that period firms at present in a small way of business would develop and new ones come into existence sufficient to supply their requirements. In reply to this, it is pointed out that a showman forced to run his show with the product of comparatively inexperienced firms against the competition of Pathé, Gaumont and the rest would not be in an enviable position, while the possibility of one or more firms leaving the Association under the pressure is hardly a contingency to be depended upon.

It may be added with reference to the question of the manufacturers' raw material—the virgin film stock—which it was stated at one time was to be reserved exclusively for associated film makers, that Messrs. Lumiere and several other makers have decided to continue the policy of an open market and supply all makers.

Such are some of the aspects of a highly complicated question, about which there are almost as many opinions as there are members of the trade. We hope it will be possible to make a full statement next week of the suggested agreement between the manufacturers and their customers and in the meantime, if any of our readers are desirous of information upon any particular point or desire to express an opinion the on crisis, we shall be pleased to receive and publish their letters.

Weekly Notes.

By "Stroller."

ENGLAND'S backwardness in living picture matters, if not quite a thing of the past, is being remedied every day. It seems, for instance, that in a very short space of time we shall enjoy as many "store shows" or electric theatres as America itself. In other directions England is not merely moving but showing a lead to many countries whose superiority in a living picture sense was previously undisputed. It was English firms which first paid serious attention to the development of the kinematograph as an educational instrument, which first made colour animated photography practicable, and which exploited the first "singing picture" attachment at a popular price, for instance.

* * *

IN the early part of next season an attempt will be made to put England ahead of the other countries in another direction still. In conjunction with Mr. Ernest Schofield, who has been organising exhibitions for years past, and who has been responsible for some of the biggest successes in that direction ever made, the WEEKLY has arranged for an International exhibition and congress to be held in London which, with the co-operation of the trade, it is hoped to make an occasion of permanent benefit to the industry.

* * *

IT is intended that equal prominence shall be given to the kinematograph as an amusement instrument and as an educational factor. There will be a large hall in which space will be allotted to firms for the exhibition of film and apparatus; a separate hall will be set aside for special exhibitions, and prizes will be awarded by an independent committee for the best displays in the various classes both of film and apparatus.

* * *

A SPECIAL effort will also be made to make the Congress in connection with the exhibition of real value, and special steps are being taken to secure the participation of the leaders of the industry from all countries. Further particulars will be found in the later issues of the WEEKLY.

* * *

SHOWMEN should be interested in the announcement made on another page by the Electric Palaces, Ltd., with reference to the daylight screen, which they control in England. It will be noted that they do not intend to confine this to their own shows, but place it at the disposal of other living picture showmen. I have many times spoken to men who have expressed a desire for an apparatus of this character, and to my own knowledge the device controlled by this Company works excellently.

* * *

IT would surprise many persons to learn what a strong dislike there is in the minds of many members of the public to the at present unavoidable darkness obtaining in picture theatres. Under the cloak of darkness no one can feel quite safe from the attentions of the nimble pickpocket, who is here, there and everywhere. There is the further disadvantage of the difficulty of reaching one's seat after the performance has commenced without

WALTURDAW

The Coal Mine Disaster

Scenes at the Pit Head **Rescue Party at Work**

Length and Price on application

COPPING THE COPPERS

An exhilarating comic subject. Two young men are bathing in the river close to a notice-board saying "no bathing allowed." An old lady seeing them, brings two policemen on the scene, who, on the swimmers refusing to yield themselves up, partially disrobe and enter the water to bring them to account. While the struggle is proceeding, Weary Willie and Tired Tim arrive on the scene and appropriate the uniforms, and on the bobbies emerging with their captives they are compelled to don the ragged garments left by the tramps.

Length 265 feet **Price £6 12 6 (less 33⅓ per cent)**

The Herring Industry of Lowestoft

A series of splendid pictures of a little-known and seldom noticed industry, full of interesting incidents of a character that cannot fail to grip any audience. Included are magnificent panoramic views of Lowestoft Harbour, depicting the vessels riding at anchor and leaving and entering the harbour. All the details of the herring industry are faithfully shown: repairing the nets—preparing vessels for sea—shooting the nets—hauling in the nets with the myriads of fish—girls at work cleaning the fish—salting and packing operations, and all the multifarious incidents connected with this wonderful industry, concluding with some startling views of the sea in stormy weather.

Length 415 feet **Price £10 7 6 (less 33⅓ per cent)**

The "Walturdaw" Co., Ltd.,

— 10, DANE STREET, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. —

Telegrams: "ALBERTYPE, LONDON." Telephone: 4707 Holborn.

trampling on everyone's favourite corns or tripping over the edge of the carpet. This is to say nothing of the strain on the eyes.

* * *

THERE is an added value in a sheet of this character to a showman who is called upon to give an entertainment at short notice, not allowing time for the hall to be darkened, or for a show in the open air. The latter class of show is to my knowledge becoming increasingly popular, and the daylight sheet should lead to alfresco shows being multiplied on every side during the summer.

* * *

I UNDERSTAND that Mr. Sydney H. Carter, of the New Century Pictures, has arranged with the Gaumont Co., Ltd., to show the Burns-Johnson fight film in the following towns: Liverpool, Leeds, Bristol, Bradford, Bolton, Blackburn, Stockport, and Halifax.

* * *

ONE of the surest cuts to a substantial bank balance is, in the opinion of many showmen, to make a liberal use of local topical films. There is not the slightest doubt that subjects of this character have immense drawing powers, and if suitably supported will secure a show many permanent supporters.

* * *

THE Prestwich advertisement on another page brings this subject to my mind. A camera is, of course, essential for the work, and showmen should be interested in the Prestwich Company's offer of an apparatus adapted to their requirements.

* * *

THE mention of topical subjects naturally brings to mind the now remarkably popular topical slides issued by Messrs. Walter Tyler, The Rotary Photo Company and others. The latter have a line of particular attractiveness in the two sets illustrating scenes from the play which is all the rage at the present time, "An Englishman's Home." I understand this firm contemplates several further series of a similar character so that what with their issues, those of Messrs. Tylers, and the films the living picture showman's stock boast that he "brings the world" before his audience, will be more true than ever before.

* * *

MR. T. J. WEST'S phenomenal success as a living picture entertainer in Australia has, I understand, led to his suffering in the usual manner from imitators who desire to take advantage of his name and reputation. One, Smith, is touring through the Commonwealth with the Bigg British Biograph Company and using Mr. West's name in a manner calculated to give the impression that the entertainment is associated with that of the latter, and Mr. West has the consolation of knowing that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

* * *

THE latest news from the States records another victory for the anti-trust party, the so-called invincible Moving Picture Patents Company having wired to its "licensed" exchanges saying that "No contracts on part of exhibitors required and licence can be surrendered at exhibitor's option." This, it is pointed out means in effect that exhibitors can get whatever films they like, independent or licensed, and the opinion is gaining ground that the Trust party will not be able to confine them to their own films.

I understand Mr. Eastman returns to the States by the S.S. Adriatic this week. It would be interesting to learn his impression of his visit here, and whether he is satisfied with the results of the Paris conference.

* * *

It would be interesting if one could learn the exact amount earned by the film of the Burns—Johnson contest, of which Gaumont's have so enterprisingly secured the rights for this country. It would almost certainly come to a total completely overshadowing the record of any other subject. To consider the statistics of the film from another point of view—how many hundreds of thousands of people will be enabled by its agency to watch the fight which took place at the other side of the world while they were sleeping?

* * *

And to watch it, it may be added, in greater comfort from a shilling seat in a music hall than was experienced by the forty thousand who paid their pounds to enter the Sydney stadium.

* * *

AN amusing account appears in the *Globe* of the methods of two rival kinematograph showmen, whose establishments are situated in the same street in Paris. One of them, whom I may call X, inserted an advertisement in a newspaper with a coupon bearing an announcement saying "On presentation at the box office a reduction of 50 per cent. will be given off the price of tickets." Y., his rival, an ingenious personage who should get on, checkmated the plan by the simple method of inserting in the newspaper under X.'s advertisement a small announcement saying "Y.'s numerous friends are informed that if they present X.'s coupon at Y.'s box office they will be admitted at half-price," thus securing all the benefit of his opponent's advertisement without having to pay for the space occupied by the coupon! X.'s opinion of this move is not stated, but it would, I imagine, be very interesting.

The Latest from Paris.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

A French Showman's Opinion of the Recent Congress.

I had an interview this afternoon with one of the leading French living picture exploitants, who controls one of the most stylish shows on the Boulevards, and whose entertainment is regularly patronised by the very best Parisian society. As an illustration of this, I may say that seated next to me in the well-equipped Cinema Gab-Ka was no less a person than the Ex-President of the French Republic, M. Loubet, who seemed to follow the various pictures with the greatest interest. I must confess that, although not over modest by nature, I did not attempt to get into conversation with the gentleman who so recently directed the destinies of the French Republic, but confined my remarks to my friend Reader of the French Vitagraph Company, on my other hand. Had I got into conversation with the occupant of the orchestra stall on my left, I fear I should have said some thing silly about a certain class of Frenchman who lost their heads badly a short time ago.

However, this is not what I set out to say about M. Bab-Ka-to whom I was speaking more particularly with reference to the International Congress which was held in this city on the 2nd inst. M. Bab-Ka, whose opinion as I need hardly point

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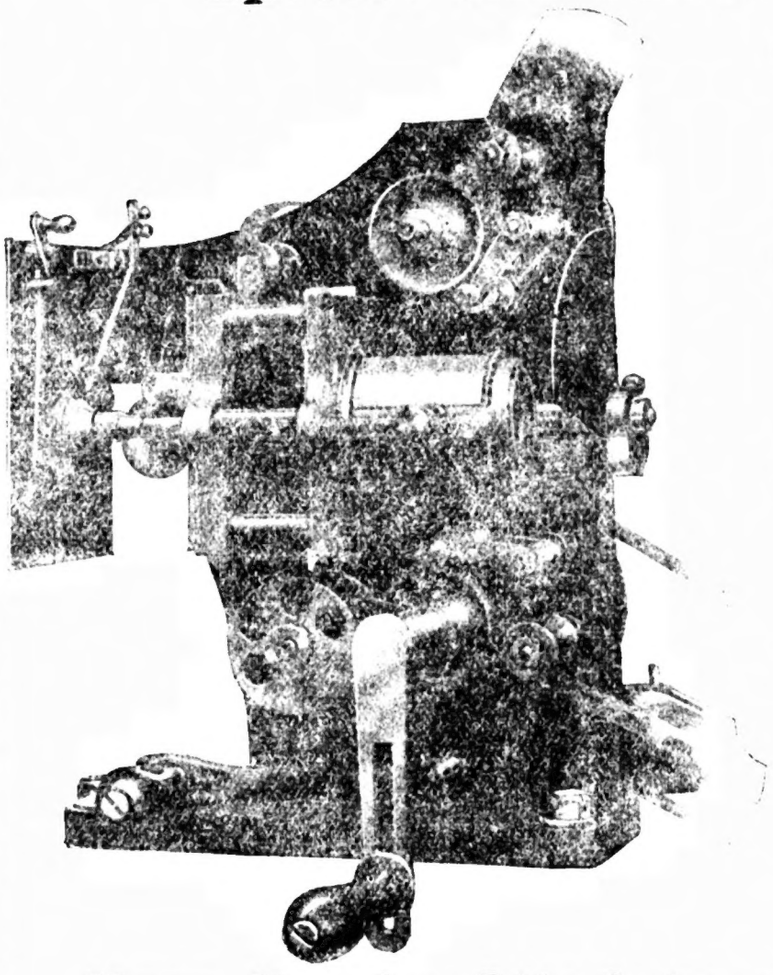

1. Release controlled by the Film

The defect of all automatic shutters at present in use is the fact that the machine must be brought to a standstill before the so-called "safety" shutter drops.

In the improved Empire type, the shutter is immediately brought into action upon a break occurring, whether the operator stops his machine or not.

2. Film breaks—Shutter drops

It often happens that a period elapses, especially in motor driven projectors, before the operator stops his machine upon a break occurring. This delay is extremely dangerous, and if high amperage is being used, a fire in the gate is the inevitable result. This is entirely prevented by the new Empire shutter.

3. Independent of stopping Machine

Owing to the many duties calling for the operator's attention, it is highly necessary that the action of the Safety shutter should be absolutely independent. With this improved type, the shutter drops immediately the film becoming stationary in the gate.

4. Simple and Absolutely Efficient

Its action, though extremely ingenious, is very simple. No additional rollers are necessary, and the improvement in no way impedes the quick threading of the machine.

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The shutter was demonstrated at the recent exhibition at the London Hippodrome with great success. It is positively impossible to fire the film in the gate if this shutter is adopted.

Now Ready fitted to our No. 2 Empire

CATALOGUE AND PARTICULARS UPON APPLICATION

The Empire Projectors contain more improvements than any other machine on the market

W. BUTCHER & SONS, Ltd., The Showman's Headquarters for everything appertaining to Cinematography,

FARRINGDON AVENUE, LONDON, E.C.

Telephone 5995 Holborn (3 Lines) Telegrams: "ENGLAND, LONDON"

...n, is one of considerable value, is not an optimist as regards the probable outcome of this meeting. His firm opinion is that in a very short time manufacturers would have to become renters and the present renters consequently disappeared entirely. This is a natural prophecy and I should not be surprised to see it fulfilled. In passing it may be remarked that the subjects of some firms can be picked up just now at an exceedingly cheap price. I have been offered perfectly new subjects at 3d. per metre in lots of 5,000 metres, and all very interesting subjects.

On the liner which sailed for the States on the 6th inst. were M. Gaumont and Messieurs. Raleigh and Robert, who are stated to be bound for America with the idea of wrecking the Edison Trust, or at least to endeavour to secure entrance to the American market for several brands of film which are at present excluded. In my own opinion the American market should be absolutely free to European film. The American public no less than that of European countries can discriminate between good and bad subjects, and makers introducing worthless films will soon see a falling off in orders. This has already happened here where there are several makers selling very few films indeed, and who will probably soon go out of business altogether.

The statement that Eastman would supply his film exclusively to members of the International Syndicate is denied here, and it has been stated to me that there will be no monopoly of this character. I give the contradiction for what it is worth.

The Citoscope.

A new apparatus has just appeared consisting of a kinematograph for projecting moving pictures and a photographic apparatus for taking kinematographic views. I have seen the two, kinem and camera. They are quite cheap—285 francs for both—and give excellent results. It will be easy for amateurs to kinematograph friends or members of the family and keep a precious souvenir, much more interesting than the still photographs.

A New Cinema Bank.

A new cinema bank has been opened at No. 30, Rue Lepeltier, for the extension of all business in the kinematograph line. We hope that this bank will meet with all the success it deserves.

The representative for Paris is our friend Guido Segre, whose knowledge in the trade is sufficient to ensure a complete success to all the business which this firm undertakes.

Financial State of Kinematograph Shares.

Le Camphre	Issued at 100 francs	29·50	31
Cie Francaise du Camphre	do.	16·00	
Société Industrielle du Celluloid	do.	140·00	143
Celluloid Petitcollin ex coupon 6	do.	79·00	
Cinemato Eclipse	do.	293·00	296
,, ,, shares	do.	400·00	
Cinema Exploitation	do.	99·56	
Cinema Hall, ex coupon 2	do.	26·75	27
Cinema Omnia	do.	91·00	
,, ,, ex coupon 1	do.	221·00	
Cinema Theophile Pathé	do.	16·00	
Etablissements Gaumont, ex c. 1	do.	140·00	142
Film d'Art	do.	354·00	
Chronog. Ciné. et App. de précis.	do.	902·00	918
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Burns-Johnson Pictures.

THE SPORTING FILM OF THE YEAR.

At last we know who has got it! The Burns-Johnson fight has gone to Gaumont's, as will be seen on referring to that firm's announcement in our advertisement pages, and the Gaumont Co. now invite exhibitors and showmen to tender for exclusive permission to exhibit the film for the first two or three weeks in any town.

We have not had an opportunity of seeing the film ourselves yet as there is only one print at present in Europe, and this is not at present available. The negative, however, is due to arrive early next week, and Messrs. Gaumont will then distribute the films to the customers with whom they have arranged to show it. The Gaumont Company, who hold the print referred to above, are of course in a position to express an opinion, and they inform us that the probable length will be from 3,000 to 3,500 feet, and that the fight itself will be shown from start to finish, also that the picture is of excellent quality throughout, and is indeed from a photographic point of view and in every other respect one of the finest fight films ever taken.

A WEEK'S SHARE IN THE PROFITS.

Quite apart from the fight itself the subject teems with interest, and the picture, showing the vast crowds besieging the box office in Sydney, and waiting to enter the Stadium as early as six o'clock on the morning of the fight, go to prove that the interest taken in the contest was quite unparallelled.

Many well-known sporting men are recognised around the ring, and not a few theatrical magnates known to the kinematograph trade, including Mr. Harry Rickards.

We know of no film that has been so much sought after in this country, and the Gaumont Co., Ltd., are certainly to be congratulated upon having secured the handling of it. As for Mr. Hugh Macintosh, the gentleman who refereed the fight, and who is the actual owner of the negative, he certainly is a shrewd business man, and will not return to Australia the poorer for his visit to this country. The illustration on this page is a facsimile of the cheque which was handed over to him before leaving Sydney, as his share of the proceeds of the first week's exhibitions of the film in the capital of New South Wales.

Exhibitors and showmen, desiring to show this great film, would do well to immediately communicate with the Gaumont Co. if they have not already done so. The offers which they have so far received from all parts have, they inform us, exceeded their expectations.

LA CINEMATOGRAFIA ITALIANA

THE ITALIAN KINEMATOGRAPHY.

ITALY'S LEADING KINEMATOGRAPH REVIEW.

24 Numbers of 20 large pages each, 8 Shillings per annum.

Editor:—Prof. GUALTIERO I. FABBRI,
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Visit our Showrooms and see it in operation, or send for our illustrated pamphlet. A large and varied range of subjects available. Additions Daily.

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Telephone: 120 CENTRAL. Telegrams "COUSINHOOD, LONDON."

News and Notes.

Information Wanted.

A correspondent would be obliged if any of our readers could inform him who are the publishers of the slides accompanying the recitation "The Blind Collier," or where such slides may be bought or hired.

The Photocinematophone.

We are in receipt of a number of enquiries with reference to this invention of Mr. E. Lauste. In reply to a letter of enquiry Mr. Lauste informs us that in order to make headway with the invention negotiations are actively in progress to form a Syndicate, and a further announcement regarding the invention will be made at an early date.

Mr. A. Muir Wilson,

the popular Sheffield solicitor who figured in *John Bull* a week or two ago, is one of the most popular and effective lecturers in the country, and since last November has delivered some thirty discourses on Canada. On Tuesday, the 9th inst., he started a new series of lectures on Japan, the accompanying slides being exceptionally fine coloured productions—real works of art. Mr. Wilson is accompanied by Mr. James P. Longhorn as operator.

West's Pictures in New Zealand.

Mr. A. M. Miller, New Zealand manager for West's Pictures, has just paid away over £1000 in deposits, covering bookings on behalf of his firm to 1913. The dates include Christmas, New Year, Easter and Carnival weeks in Christchurch, and Christmas, New Year and Easter in Wellington, for the next four years. This is booking ahead to some purpose!

Kineto, Ltd.,

have secured the exclusive kinematograph rights for the boxing contest for the Light-Weight Championship between Jimmy Brett, of America, and Johnny Summers, of England, at the National Sporting Club on the 22nd inst. It will be remembered that the men have already met, when at the conclusion of a fierce fight, in which it was the almost unanimous opinion that Summers held the upper hand, the verdict was given to Brett on points, so that everything points to a ding-dong struggle and a good film. Mr. J. G. Avery will furnish all particulars as to length, price, etc., on application.

Messrs. Butcher & Sons

have now considerably enlarged their kinematograph department at Farringdon Avenue, and showmen visiting London will find a visit very interesting. Everything connected with the kinematograph trade is at hand and practical demonstrations of the various projectors can be seen. In addition there are many novelties introduced by this enterprising firm which cannot fail to be of interest, and although everyone is apparently extremely busy coping with the output of machines and the increasing demand of a well-organised hire trade, Mr. Baker is always pleased to see any exhibitor who is interested, and intending exhibitors will find and obtain all necessary information that may be required.

New Feature at the Electric Theatres.

The Electric Theatres, Ltd., in conjunction with the *Daily Express*, have inaugurated an interesting topical attraction at their various establishments. The scheme is, in effect, an extension of the practice, very common at election times, of theatres and music halls making announcements of the latest news by means of special slides. The *Express* has arranged to telephone hour by hour, or whenever a contingency arises, the latest news of the world to the Electric Theatres. This new service will be supplemented by a series of photographs showing topical events, so that patrons of the Electric Theatres will practically enjoy the essential features of an illustrated newspaper without additional cost. Experiments have been made in a quiet way for some time past, and pictures of the King and Queen in Berlin, the Laying of the Foundations of the New County Hall, etc., have been shown. The *Express* will also supply football results, snapshots of the games, etc. At present seven Electric Theatres will enjoy the service.

The Mexico City Fire.

Three hundred persons were burned to death at a fire at the Flores Theatre, Mexico City, on Sunday night last. The outbreak is ascribed to a kinematograph film catching fire and the flames spreading to the bunting decorations. The theatre was a wooden structure with only three narrow exits, and over a thousand people had gathered to witness a special performance in honour of the governor of the State of Guerrero. Newspaper accounts go to show that a panic occurred and, the entrances becoming choked, great difficulty was experienced in clearing the building. Some of the accounts in the papers should be taken with reservation. As in the case of many other catastrophes it may turn out on later intelligence that the living picture machine had less to do with the matter than is at present believed.

Smart Operating at Aberdeen.

A smart piece of work at the Gaiety, Mr. Dove Parerson's picture establishment, was the talk of Aberdeen last week. The reception given to the Cinephone rendering of "The Land of Hope and Glory" was so cordial that Mr. Paterson, on the spur of the moment, 'phoned to his son in the operating box to rewind the film and oblige with an encore. Mr. Paterson meanwhile stepped forward and requested the audience's indulgence for the slight wait. Now, however, Mr. Paterson, with his usual smartness, has arranged matters so that the picture is actually rewound and started on the second reproduction within the minute. A coloured slide is inserted at the end of the selection saying, "In response to your kind encore, the Cinephone song will be repeated." By the time the audience has read the notice the operator is ready to repeat the subject. This must be something like a record in operating; can any other showman beat it.

Urban-Smith Colour Film.

The new Urban colour films will make their first public appearance at the Palace Theatre on Monday, March 1st. The experiment will be watched with the greatest interest, for there is no doubt that the reception accorded the new pictures by the descriminating audience at the Palace will have a good deal to do with the subsequent progress of living pictures in natural colours. In view of the remarkable quality of the experimental films already shown on several occasions by the Urban Company, the nature of that reception can hardly be a matter of doubt. For the inaugural exhibition some highly attractive scenes have been secured. Bright sunshine being necessary in obtaining the coloured pictures the opening scenes deal exclusively with the countries of southern Europe, and operators have been hard at work on the Riviera for some time. We understand it is probable that at no great space of time after the Palace demonstration the Urban colour films will be placed within the reach of the ordinary showman.

Readers who buy films through our notices, or through our advertising pages, would confer an obligation on us, if they would mention the fact when writing to the makers

FILMS LIMITED
LIVERPOOL
Clearance Bargain Sale

D Dramatic C Comedy E Events and Historical T Travels and Panoramic S Sporting
P Pantomime I Industries M Magic

No.		Length feet	Price £ s. d
988	Mystery of a Cab C	275	1 5 0
989	Diabolo Tragedy D	340	1 10 0
990	The Reckless Horseman C ...	305	1 10 0
992	Ninette the child model D ...	560	2 10 0
994	Ali Baba Pantomime, coloured P	1,088	10 0 0
997	The Pirates D	545	2 5 0
2	Toothache C...	372	1 10 0
3	Mysterious Barrels C	450	2 0 0
4	Black Witch C	330	1 10 0
5	Adventures of a Beggar C ...	140	12 6
6	Sailor's Revenge D	500	2 0 0
9	Up-to-date Burglary C ...	510	2 0 0
10	Unknown Talent C	379	1 10 0
11	Aladdin Pantomime, coloured P	824	3 10 0
13	Moir v. Burns Prizefight E ...	1,000	10 0 0
15	Doings of a Poodle C	346	1 10 0
16	Maxin Brothers and Bobby C ...	226	15 0
18	The Orphans D	655	2 10 0
19	Twin Brothers Joke C ...	600	2 10 0
20	A Champion all the same C ...	412	1 15 0
22	The Miser D	465	2 0 0
23	Robber's Sweetheart D ...	754	3 0 0
24	Curate and his Double C ...	435	2 0 0
26	First Days of a French Conscript E	635	2 10 0
27	A Fish Story P	450	2 0 0
28	A Crazy Quilt C	400	1 15 0
29	The Mesmerist, Elge C ...	495	2 0 0
31	Pipe Making E	235	1 0 0
32	Cinderella Hepwix P	1,235	5 0 0
33	A Kind Hearted Tramp D ...	440	1 15 0
36	Le las Ricochet E	248	1 0 0
37	His First Row C	330	1 10 0
38	The Witches Kiss M	379	1 10 0
39	Unknown Brazil T	430	1 15 0
40	The Mesmerist, Hepwix M ...	165	15 0
42	Lady Doctor's Husband D ...	560	2 5 0
43	Good Luck for the New Year C	412	1 15 0
44	The Dynamite Thrower D ...	625	2 10 0
45	The Shrimper D	445	1 15 0
46	Lady Wrestlers E	492	2 0 0
47	A Pretty Typist C	510	2 5 0
49	Go, Little Cabin Boy D ...	806	3 10 0
50	Runaway Horse C	425	1 15 0
51	Through the North and Norway T	492	2 0 0
52	A Misalliance D	779	3 5 0
53	Will He Overtake them C ...	412	1 15 0
54	A Hostage D	626	2 10 0
55	A Wet Day C	275	1 0 0
56	Trip to Killarney T	692	3 0 0

No.		Length feet	Price £ s. d
57	Gigsy's Revenge D	495	2 0 0
58	Troubles of the Twins C ...	495	2 0 0
60	Modern Naval Hero D ...	731	3 0 0
62	Trainer's Daughter D... ...	800	3 10 0
129	Skating Championships of Norway E	230	1 0 0
130	The Will D	387	1 10 0
131	Toulas' Dream C	330	1 10 0
132	Why Smith left Home C ...	320	1 5 0
133	Hamstead Mine Disaster E ...	305	1 5 0
134	The Dogs of the Gamekeeper D	452	2 0 0
135	Poor Aunt Matilda C	235	1 0 0
136	Uncles Will C	425	1 15 0
137	In Memory of his Mother D ...	490	2 5 0
138	Amateur Acrobat C	545	2 10 0
139	Bobby's Fire Engine C ...	272	1 5 0
140	Motor Ride over the Alps E ...	675	3 0 0
141	Happy Bob as Suitor C ...	253	1 0 0
143	Mountaineer's Flirtation D ...	435	2 0 0
144	The Smuggler's Son D ...	600	3 0 0
145	The Lighthouse E	345	1 10 0
146	When Father came home from Switz C	262	1 5 0
149	Grand National E	500	2 0 0
152	The Rival Cyclists C	350	1 15 0
153	The way to get rid of Ma-in-Law C	322	1 10 0
154	The Singer and the Song D ...	520	2 10 0
155	Taming the Shrew L	912	5 0 0
156	Grand National E	500	2 0 0
158	A Red man's Justice D ...	570	3 0 0
159	Scottish Highlands T	600	3 0 0
161	Chair, if you please C	265	1 5 0
162	The Bookies Troubles C ...	368	1 15 0
163	Married for Nothing C ...	432	2 0 0
164	Stolen Boots C	250	1 1 0
165	Wanted. A maid C	560	2 10 0
166	The Little Flower Girl D ...	425	2 0 0
167	Happy Bob as a servant C ...	374	1 15 0
168	Modern Sculptors M	396	2 5 0
169	Angelo D	695	3 10 0
170	In the days of King Richard D	565	2 17 6
171	An Artful Dodger C	775	3 10 0
172	The Bad Shilling D	463	2 5 0
173	Only a penny a Box Sir D ...	452	2 10 0
174	The Two Servants D	470	2 10 0
175	Two Brothers D	676	3 15 0
176	Sentimental Thief D	445	2 10 0
177	The Bond D	650	3 0 0
178	An Arabian Legend M ...	565	2 10 0
179	The Cossacks of the Don at Moscow D	445	2 5 0
180	The Burglar and the clock C ...	550	2 10 0

All Films are in good condition the lengths stated are approximate. Approval allowed for one day against Cash Deposit. Terms Net, Cash with Order.

This Journal is on sale at W. H. Smith & Sons' Bookstalls; or is sent post free weekly from the Publishers for 6/6 per ann.

Latest American News.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

New York, February 6th.

Chicago Exhibitors Oppose Trust.

A largely attended mass meeting of renters and exhibitors was held in Chicago a week ago to discuss the statement issued by the Moving Picture Patents Co. and to consider the attitude to be taken up towards the latter. There were some 400 exhibitors present when Mr. R. Freedlander called the meeting to order, and after a long discussion it was enthusiastically agreed that those present should refuse to sign the Patent Co.'s agreement or pay a royalty on their machines. Among the speakers were Mr. G. F. Bauerdorf, of the Film Import and Trading Co., representing Williamson, Cines and Eclair, who assured the meeting that there would shortly be a weekly issue of fourteen reels of Independent film; Mr. Pink, of the Viascope Co., who promised a non-infringing projector; and representatives of several film publishing firms which had been practically pushed out of the business by the Edison combine, but were now prepared to issue films regularly once more. Assurances of support were also received from the Chicago Film Exchange, the Globe Film Exchange, and the Royal Film Exchange.

With reference to the statement that the Gaumont Co. had not authorised the use of their name as lessees of the new Patents Co., Mr. George Kleine has issued a statement to the effect that Mr. Gaumont and himself on September 23rd last signed the agreement with the new organisation. The agreement does not cover the chronophone. Mr. Kleine adds that Mr. Rogers, of the Urban-Eclipse Co., signed on October 16th. Commenting on this statement, the *Moving Picture News* affirms that Mr. Gaumont signed the agreement with the proviso that it should be extended to the chronophone, and repeats its assertion that the position of the Gaumont Co. is "undecided and indefinite."

The Pictures and the Children.

The question of the influence of the living picture shows upon the susceptible minds of the rising generation is once more to the fore. Attention is now being directed to the low class of many of the vaudeville turns given in connection with otherwise well conducted picture theatres, and exhibitors are being urged to exercise a more rigid censorship over the words and actions of their performers, whose doubtful behaviour is getting a bad name for the picture theatres.

Another instance of the effect—this time of the pictures themselves—upon youthful minds is given by the *Philadelphia Telegram*, which states that James Lemnon, a Germantown youth, after seeing in a moving picture show a film in which the life of a hobo (English tramp) was made to appear attractive, made his way to the railway yard with the intention of stowing himself away on a car, in emulation of the hero of the picture story. He was arrested, with two other tramps bound on the same errand, and returned to his parents.

Children to be Excluded?

Efforts are again being made to entirely exclude children under sixteen years of age from moving picture shows in New York. The present law prohibiting the attendance at theatres by children of tender age does not apply to the picture theatres, which are operated under a common licence. At a recent meeting of the Board of Aldermen to consider the matter it was stated that hundreds of children are to be found in the shows when they ought to be at school.

Living Pictures as Evidence.

A living picture film was used as evidence in the Supreme Court in Brooklyn the other day in a case in which a school-boy, through his guardian, sued a railway company fo damages for injuries caused through a fall from a car. The boy's leg was fitted with a metal support, and it was claimed by the lawyer that he was permanently disabled. The defendants asked that the court should be darkened and then showed a living picture in which the so-called cripple was shown indulging in wrestling and other violent sports, but in spite of this the verdict went against them the boy getting £1,700 damages. The Judge pointed out that the picture showing the boy apparently running fast might have been taken at a much slower speed than that at which it was reproduced, so that any limp in the boy's gait would not be so noticeable. What really lost the case, however, was probably the fact, brought out in evidence, that the boy was bribed to remove his leg-irons before posing for the living picture camera.

Laemmle a Licensee.

Mr. Carl Laemmle has made application to be included in the list of licensed renters of the Patents Co., and been accepted. His name was absent from the first published list of licensed renters and a good many hopes were built on that fact. It turns out that Mr. Laemmle was merely consulting the managers of his numerous branches before making his application, and he now states that he is fully satisfied with the new state of affairs.

The Operators and Licensing.

The Police Department of Chicago has issued a notice to the effect that all operators or managers found after this notice operating a show without a licence will be arrested, under an ordinance passed in July last but not previously enforced, which provides for a penalty of from ten to ten hundred dollars per day from every unlicensed operator, and from twenty-five to two hundred dollars from the manager who employs him.

A building inspector who visited several of the Indianopolis theatres recently found one of the operators smoking a cigar with several spools of films lying about. He did not get a licence.

An extensively signed petition, got up by the religious community of the town, has resulted in the Mayor ot Hamilton, Ohio, issuing an order closing all moving picture shows in that town on Sundays.

Wheatsheaf Hall, Monkwearmouth.—The New Animated Picture Co., are to be congratulated on their advertising matter for this week, an admirable two-colour poster in which the major part of the space is occupied by Rifle Bill in the Spectre of the Plain having been sent us. The descriptive matter of this film and the others, which include House Decorators, Volcanic Chimney, Adventures of a Watch, Weary Willie Steals a Fish, Romance of a Jewess, and Yusuf the Pirate, is admirable.

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Provides high-class and up-to-date music, and pleases the public
In use in some of the best theatres in London and the Provinces.

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LUMIÈRE N. A. CO.,

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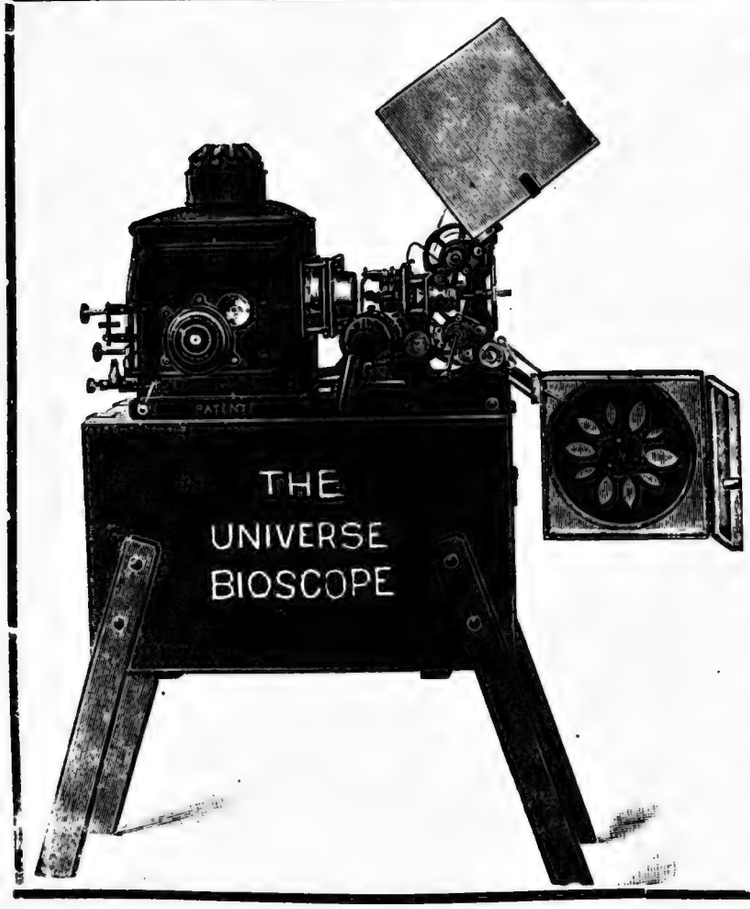

SHOWMEN

As a result of the late demonstration at the London Hippodrome, it is generally anticipated that the L.C.C. will make it compulsory in the future for every kinematograph to be fitted with

Fire Proof Spool-Boxes.

If you are wise you will anticipate the action of the Council and **at once** have your machine fitted with our safety boxes, in which the film is passed between two rollers, so doing away with all friction.

Price, Round 35/- Square (as in illustration) 40/-

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Scientific Engineers and Manufacturers, Complete Outfitters of all Apparatus for Taking and Projecting Kinematograph Pictures.

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WEEKLY

TOPICAL SLIDES

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SERIES. No. 6

READY.

SYNOPSIS

1 International Cross Country Runners, meeting in Paris February 14, 1909. The start.

2 International Cross Country Runners, Aldridge English representative who came in second.

3 International Cross Country Runners, Bouchard French representative the winner.

4 Kaimil Pasha, Grand Vizier of Turkey who has just been deposed by the young Turks

5 Lord Charles Beresford who is about to haul down his flag.

6 Northern sports Stockholm, Huntsmen & hounds in the ice

7 New York Marathon Longboat & Shrubb at the starting point February 6th, 1909.

8 King opens Parliament 16th February, 1909 procession passing down Whitehall.

9 King opens Parliament 16th February, 1909 near view of State Coach.

10 Football Ireland v. England, February 13th 1909 Ireland won, Irish team.

11 Football England v. Ireland English team.

The remaining pictures will illustrate the Waterloo Cup meeting and other events which may occur within the next few hours.

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TELEGRAMS WALTER TYLER LONDON

The Warwick Cinephone.

When one notices the number of establishments all over the country which are making "singing pictures" by the Warwick Cinephone a regular feature of their programmes, it is difficult to realise that the instrument was placed on the market for the first time as late as November last. The avidity with which the Cinephone was taken up by the showmen is easily enough explained. "Singing Pictures" previously had been something of an expensive luxury, and many showmen who would have been glad of the attraction could not afford the necessary outlay. When the Cinephone was offered at "the ridiculous price of £9 10s.," as a draper would say, it brought singing pictures within the reach of even the most modest living picture entertainer, and it is not surprising to observe the strides it has made in three short months.

The first question usually asked by the showman is if an apparatus sold at so low a figure can be trusted to do its work with accuracy and without continually breaking down. Some doubts on this head are natural under the circumstances, but we do not think they can survive an inspection of the instrument, which is so ridiculously simple in principle that it would be difficult even purposely to put it out of gear.

Unlike most of the other synchronising machines on the market, there is no connection in the Cinephone between the gramophone at the foot of the sheet and the projector at the back of the hall. The speed of the projector does not accelerate or retard the action of the record in the slightest, nor that of the record affect the projector—which means that the possibility of mechanical trouble is done away with. Once the record has been started correctly it runs right through, and it devolves on the operator to keep the picture in synchronism by turning the handle of the projector at a greater or less speed as circumstances demand.

He learns when such acceleration or retardation is necessary in a very simple manner. Attached to the projector, stationed at the foot of the sheet, is a box, on the end of which, in view of the operator, is an illuminated circular dial. As the record revolves, a pointer circles round the dial. At the same time, in the corner of the picture on the screen, a precisely similar dial and pointer is shown, and all the operator has to do is to regulate the speed of his projector so that the position of the pointer on the screen dial coincides with that on the gramophone dial. A personal trial demonstrated that it was the easiest possible thing to do this—even a considerable divergence in position being remedied in a few seconds.

The starting of the machine is easily mastered. The pointer on the gramophone dial is brought to the "12 o'clock" position, and the reproducing needle placed on a white spot marking the beginning of the record. The operator at the gramophone then signals his readiness to begin to his companion at the other end and the latter starts the projector. Following the title of the song a short length of yellow title is flashed on the screen and this is the signal for the starting of the gramophone.

An advantage of the Cinephone which in some circumstances may be of great value should be pointed out. The absence of electrical control of any kind means that the instrument is not put out of use if a supply of electric current is not available. Limelight may be used for projecting purposes, and a candle or lamp for illuminating the dial.

Cinephone subjects are supplied on hire only.

Mr. W. Barker and Mr. C. Jeapes, of the Warwick, who, we understand, are jointly responsible for the Cinephone, are to be congratulated on the ingenious and yet simple way in which they secure the desired combination of record and picture, and it is undoubtedly a feather in the cap of the English trade that the instrument should be of purely British conception and manufacture.

Perfect Picture Projection

IN A

Fully Lighted Hall

The most up-to-date Cinematograph Picture Theatre : : : :

The Electric Palace

Marble Arch, London, W.

are demonstrating daily a patented device which makes this possible. The problem of projecting pictures without the necessity of turning down the lights in the Hall in which they are displayed has at last been solved. ¶ This is nothing short of a : : : :

Revolution in Picture Projection

NO MORE EYE STRAIN!
NO MORE DARKENED HALLS!
NO MORE RISKS OF PANIC!

Perfect Safety, Comfort and Confidence

Send for full particulars and terms, or call at any time to see this wonderful invention demonstrated at

The Electric Palace

Marble Arch, London, W.

The invention has been fully patented all over the world. : : :

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LONDON

Living Pictures in Australia.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, JANUARY 5TH.

Spencer's Theatrescope Co. in Sydney.

Since I last wrote you, a new year has commenced with great eclat as regards motion photography.

At the Lyceum, Pitt Street, Sydney, Spencer's Theatrescope Co. is running continuously to record business. Mr. and Senora Spencer's popularity with their entire staff was evinced on New Year's Eve, when Mr. J. H. Goodman, the business manager, presented them with massive solid silver table ornaments, etc., on behalf of their entire staff front and back of house, including orchestra, clerical staff, and manufacturing department. Mr. Spencer returned thanks in a felicitous speech.

Burns v. Johnson.

The Burns-Johnson fight film is one of the finest of the kind ever taken. Executed by Mr. E. H. Higgins, Mr. Spencer's chief expert, its length is close on 6,600 feet and embraces all the details of the contest, training scenes, etc. The picture drew great crowds at the Stadium during the week; the first two nights over 16,000 paid for admission, prices ranging from 5s. to 1s. Owing to its great success it will be transferred for a week to the spacious Town Hall, and after that will go on tour in New South Wales, while separate films will commence tours of Victoria, South and West Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Queensland, South Africa, England, and America.

The *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, says: "These pictures, obtained from a stand looking down upon the ring at Burn's corner, may be classed as amongst the finest yet produced of any pugilistic encounter by the kinematograph. The combatants are shown in bold relief against the white floor of the ring, so that, as round after round is thrown upon the screen, the progress of the battle may be easily followed in every detail. The picture is a veritable triumph in the art of motion photography."

Mr. C. Spencer is the owner of the sole rights of the world for these series, and he is announced as running the same with Mr. Hugh M'Intosh, of sporting fame here.

Films of Australia for the English Market.

Mr. Spencer's expert, Mr. E. H. Higgins, recently obtained a magnificent series of the Australian Naval Brigade in their manœuvres, drilling, etc. These will be seen in England in the near future.

During the current week Spencers' are showing Edison's She and A Voice From the Dead; Gaumont's Cripples Race, Saved From the Sea, Distributing House Bills; Urban's Guard's Alarum, Gorges of Tarn; Rosie's, Percy Grows a Moustache; Vitagraph, Duty v. Revenge; Lux, Swordfish; Pathé's Acrobatic Servant, Road of Life, Difficult Arrest, Elastic Transformation, and sundry others, making a first-class programme. A change is made every Saturday matinee, giving as a rule all new subjects.

Developments in Australian Trade.

Mr. Spencer will shortly open a large warehouse for the supply of everything in connection with the business. He is now negotiating for premises. The hiring department is assuming gigantic dimensions, last week 148,000 feet went out on hire to every large city and town in the Commonwealth and New Zealand. The sales department has also given a good account of itself for the past year.

The Lady Mayoress, with her suite, was present last Wednesday evening, and expressed her more than delight at the grand programme presented. Last night Gaumont's chronomegophone was rendered to an overflowing house, when Harry Lauder was introduced in new songs.

THE CINES CO.

OF ROME LTD.

Marco Visconti

An historical novel of the XIV. century, in ten tableaux. The first of a series of artistic films founded on well known works. Quality, staging and acting superb. 730 ft.

The Importunate Neighbour

A capital comic, full of unusual and highly laughable situations. Shows what happened to a lodger who was disturbed by the noise made by a neighbour's punching ball. 297 ft.

Darkness.

A superb production of deep dramatic interest in 14 scenes. 623 ft.

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In 3 scenes. More delightful humour.

Write at once for particulars of our new subjects to be mailed to you weekly.

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A first class comic, of first class quality. Everyone has been asking recently for good comics, and we are glad to be able to offer something good of the right description.

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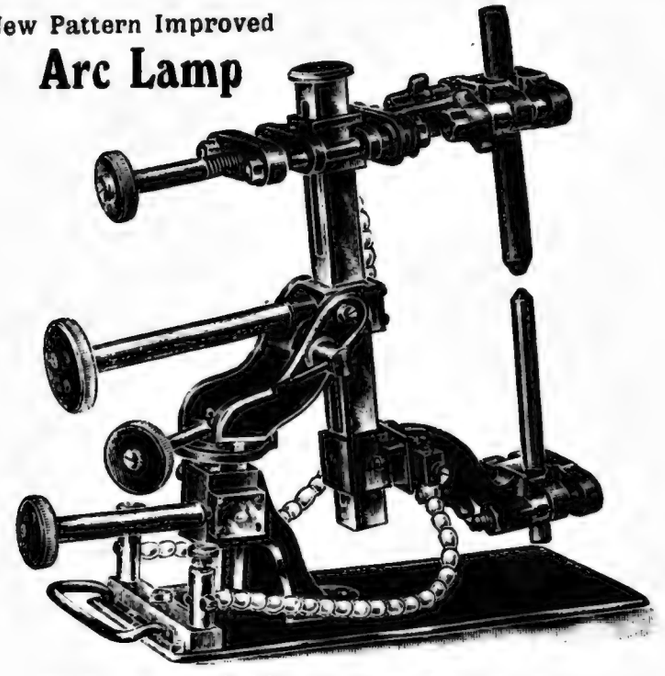

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NOW READY.—"Sweetheart Town," "Don't Take Me Home," "You Are the Girl for Me," "Love Spells Trouble to Me," "Mansion of Millionaires," "When the Leaves have turned to Golden," "In the Bright Moonlight."

Music Free.—You can get the above from any song slide or film exchange or direct from the makers.

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Slides of the GREAT SUCCESSES of the TOPICAL LONDON PLAYS, from Photographs taken on the stage, showing THE FAVOURITES of the day in the original parts.

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The play that is arousing such enthusiasm, showing the 12 most dramatic incidents.

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3 **Our Miss Gibbs** (Gaiety, London). The latest production.
Showing Miss Gertie Millar, Edmund Payne, &c.

4 **The King of Cadonia** (Prince of Wales', London).
Showing Miss Isabel Jay, Bertram Wallis, &c.

5 **The Belle of Brittany** (Queen's, London).
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The Paris Congress.

FULLER DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT.

Kinema, the French trade paper, has, in its last issue, an interesting article dealing with the recent International Meeting of Film Manufacturers in Paris, which met to discuss and find a remedy for some of the evils under which the film trade is at present labouring. The result of these deliberations has already been published in brief in our columns, but some further interesting points may be gleaned from the following account.

The firms represented were as follows:—Eclair (M. Vandal), Eclipse (M. Rogers), Gaumont (M. L. Gaumont), Lion (M. Bernheim), Lux (M. Shae), Melies (M. G. Melies), Pathé Freres (M. Chas. Pathé), Theophile Pathé (M. Pronio), Raleigh & Robert (MM. Raleigh and Robert), Itala (M. Legret), Nordisk (M. O. Olsen). Vitagraph (M. Reader). Among the English firms were Cricks and Martin (Messrs. Cricks & Martin), R. W. Paul, Chas Urban & Co. (Mr. Charles Urban), Warwick Trading Co. (Mr. W. Barker), The Walturdaw Co., and the Hepworth Company. Mr. Eastman was also present with Mr. Smith of his company.

The Congress began its work on Tuesday, February 2nd, at 9.30 a.m., and sat until four o'clock on Thursday, 4th, with only the necessary adjournments for food and sleep.

The proceedings began with a banquet at the Grand Hotel, where a feeling of good fellowship was engendered which was maintained throughout the Congress. Toasts were proposed by some of the biggest men in the industry, whose opposition would have been fatal to the scheme, in a spirit which gave rise to great enthusiasm and a general hope for a successful outcome of the meeting.

The following in brief were the resolutions adopted:—

Makers agree to supply films only to members of the "Association Kinema"—and these members in their turn undertake not to supply directly or indirectly to any person not pledged to the agreement.

Makers agree only to supply such buyers as will bind themselves in writing to return the films after a maximum period of four months. This rule to admit of no exception.

Buyers guarantee not to remove or obliterate the titles and trade marks attached by the makers, but to return the film intact at the end of its period of use.

If makers run shows, they agree, similarly, to destroy their films after 25 days use.

The minimum sale price for positives is fixed at fr. 1.25 per metre for celluloid and fr. 1.35 per metre for uninflammable film. A discount of not more than 2 per cent. to be granted for cash payment. America is excluded from this rule, which is to admit of no other exception.

Films sent on approval must be returned within 48 hours.

The question of fixing the minimum rate of hire of films is reserved until the renters meet on the 18th inst. A committee composed of Messrs. Pathe, Gaumont and Melies will then discuss with the hirers the terms of a *modus vivendi*.

As already stated the above agreement will be put into force experimentally in France, Holland, Switzerland, Belgium and Austria-Hungary.

Readers will do us a favour by mentioning the "Weekly" in any communications with Advertisers.

Remarkable Film Subjects.

NAT PINKERTON.

(By the Nordisk Films Company.)

We confess to being a little tired of the detective films which have been so prominent a feature of this season's output. When it is remembered that even the inimitable Sherlock Holmes lost some of his attractions on his reappearance, it may be readily believed that the infallible crime trackers who have featured in films much more easily grow tiresome, if only for their very infallibility, which transcends all probability. The public enjoyed watching Nick Carter and other living picture detectives, and admired the steps by which they secured their desired ends of rescuing wronged innocence and confounding the enemies of society, but when the hero had repeated his captures four or five times on similar lines the thing began to pall. We think this objection may be taken to a certain degree to the above film issued by the Nordisk Company. Nat Pinkerton, in whom we recognise the gentleman who impersonated Sherlock Holmes for this firm, under a new name, is just a little too infallible. Nevertheless, this subject reveals a much more ingenious plot than that of many detective stories, and it is so well staged that it should prove a good draw to showmen, and well deserves the title of a remarkable film subject.

The opening scene introduces us to an Anarchist club, where a plot is being hatched to do away with a Government official whose actions have made his removal necessary to the safety of the conspirators. One of the gang is chosen to assassinate the official, and makes his way to the latter's residence. Here his disreputable appearance awakes the suspicions of the servant and upon entering the great man's study the latter quickly covers him with a revolver, while his servant summons the police.

The efforts of the police to make the criminal disclose the names of his associates are ineffectual, and the chief, after the habit of police officers in story books and film subjects, gets on the telephone to the infallible Nat Pinkerton. (In passing we may express the opinion that it would have been better to have published the film as a further adventure of Sherlock Holmes; Pinkerton, the American strike breaker, has not a reputation likely to make his name popular with English audiences.) The detective, after his interrogation has also failed, employs a really ingenious ruse to attain the desired information of the gang's plans. As the prisoner is sitting in his cell a black-bearded man, a typical anarchist in appearance, is seen on the narrow cill of the cell window filing at the iron bars, which he eventually removes, clambering into the cell to the delight of the prisoner. Just as the two are about to decamp through the window, a number of policemen burst into the cell and secure them both.

The two men are conveyed to the punishment cell, where they are each strapped to a wall facing one another, with bands round their limbs and necks. Left alone they begin to talk, and the original prisoner unwittingly reveals all the plans of the anarchist club to his companion, who having learnt all he desires steps easily out of the straps, removes his false beard and wig, and stands revealed as Pinkerton—to the surprise and fury of the criminal.

Now fully primed with knowledge of the gang's intentions Nat is easily able to defeat them. He has learned from the prisoner that it is intended to blow up the house of the official upon whose life the previous ineffectual attempt was made. He posts men at each entrance to the tunnel where the criminals are placing the bomb in position, and in a highly effective scene surprises them as they emerge. A finishing touch is put by the capture of the chief of the gang in his study.

The Picture Palace, Bolton, has for its chief films this week Winner of the Lottery, The Quiet Hotel, The Tempter, Baby's Playmate, Pardon, Chauffeur's Nightmare, Gamble for a Woman, and Irascible Father; there also being turns by Jack Myers and Fred Wrigley.

The World in Motion Pictures have a very good programme again this week at Wigan, the films including Lilian's Christmas Day, The Angel Child, Prince of Challant, Following in Mother's Footsteps, Rip's Inheritance, Cook's At Home Day, The Stepmother and Man of Many Falls. Tyler's Topical Slides continue to feature successfully in the bill here, and invariably receive rounds of applause. On Thursday a slide was issued showing the King in Berlin, and excited great interest on being shown on that and the two following days.

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Living Pictures in Italy.

La Cinematografia Italiana announces that an interesting "Kinematograph Competition" will be held in Milan in May or June next, with the object of stimulating the manufacturers to produce subjects more worthy of the great possibilities of "living pictures" than those which are at present the rule. The objects of the promoters are further particularised as follows:

"To apply kinematography to education, the diffusion of historical, geographical, ethnical and ethical knowledge; to the propaganda of comedy by means of humorous but not immoral stories, to the exposition of the facts of present-day life—in short to give the development of the kinematograph a direction in accordance with sound standards of culture."

To secure these desirable ends, a committee has been formed to manage the "World's Kinematograph Competition," and has already published a list of the prizes which will be awarded for the best examples in the various classes of film subjects. It invites manufacturers to submit "subjects of historical fact, or of heroic deeds, tending to instil a lofty sense of patriotism in the beholder; films of art, coloured films; films illustrating the advance of science and industry; pictures of sport," etc.

Prizes will be awarded by an International jury, consisting of gold, silver, and bronze medals, for the films which are decided to be most artistic and elevating in subject and of the best technical quality.

Prizes will also be given for "incombustible, transparent, and voice accompanied ('singing' picture?) films," for films of any new substance, whether paper, cloth, metal or what not, making an advance on that at present used, and for devices enabling projection in daylight and bright artificial light, projection in relief, and anything else of merit in connection with living pictures.

The conditions of entry state that no film maker will be allowed to be a member of the judging jury. The committee shall secure suitable premises for the exhibition of the films—each firm if it desires to provide its own operator and projector. Films submitted as entries must not have been previously published, and each show must consist of at least 500 metres of film, made up of not more than four subjects.

The proceeds of the exhibition will be devoted to charity.

Operating in the Future.

Mechanical operating is steadily growing in favour in this country, and a number of very useful attachments designed to relieve the operator have recently appeared on the market. It is stated that electrical devices will shortly appear on the market which will enable the projector to be controlled from a considerable distance with perfect accuracy and safety. The same device will, it is expected, be applied to the taking of films, and a camera is said to be about to make its appearance in which the operating, focussing, etc., can all, if circumstances make it necessary, be performed electrically from any distance—and this without the necessity of communicating wires.

The Church and Living Pictures.

A "Society of Religious Projection" has been formed in Florence by the Rev. Father Gallina, who announces that his Archbishop and numerous lesser church dignitaries have signified their approval of his plan, of which, however, the "Evangelicals" are said to disapprove. The Church in this country is fully alive to the possibilities for good of living pictures, and generally speaking welcomes any attempt to raise the standard of the subjects. For instance, three medals have been offered by clerical gentlemen as awards in the competition alluded to at the beginning of this article.

Turin Showmen on Strike.

Some time back the Municipality of Turin issued an order prohibiting certain displays of an advertising nature, made by the living picture showmen of the town in order to draw the public to their establishments. The showmen have made an indignant protest through the advertising columns of the newspapers, and in order to enlist the sympathy of the public have taken the further step of closing their establishments, on the doors of which were affixed placards reading: "Closed as a protest against Municipal persecution." These were at once removed by the police, and there the matter rests at present.

West's Pictures, Australia.

Mr. T. J. West's pictures in Australia go from triumph to triumph. A number of Australian and New Zealand papers are just to hand by the mail, in which some details are given of the Christmas and New Year business done by this famous entertainment. At the Wellington Town Hall the takings of Christmas Day, despite opposition from four other shows, were £183. At Auckland, where five shows were running, one of the leading papers predicts a "scattering" when West's should open. Mr. E. Geach, Sydney manager for Mr. West, reports a successful outcome of the matinees in aid of the Earthquake sufferers, given simultaneously by all Mr. West's establishments.

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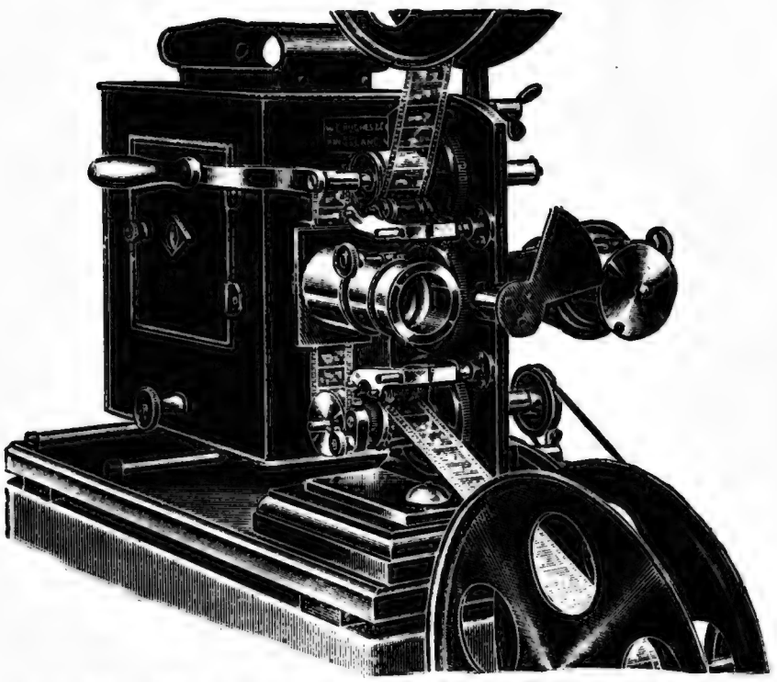

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New Films and their Makers.

Cines Co.

This Italian firm reports a good demand for its film subjects, which now begin to show traces of the experienced workmanship of Rossi. They this week issue the first of a series of artistic subjects founded on well-known historical episodes, with the title MARCO VISCONTI. Marco, a huge bearded warrior, during a hunting expedition stops at a country inn for refreshment and there meets a poor girl whose beauty inspires an overmastering passion in the rude chieftain. His shield bearer, who attempts to restrain him, receives a severe blow in the face, and Marco then mounts his horse and attempts to gain control over his passions by a mad gallop. He is thrown to the ground and carried to the neighbouring castle of the Count Del Balzo. Here Marco's amorous tendencies once more assert themselves and he conceives a love for Bice, the charming daughter of the Count, who is engaged to Ottorino. Seeking his opportunity he, with a number of his followers, surprises the girl and carries her off to his own castle. Repelling all his advances, she is left in charge of the shield bearer, who with the recent blow still fresh in his mind, endeavours to set her free. Marco returns and surprises them and the shield bearer flies to the girl's father and tells him where she is confined. The rescuers unhappily only arrive in time to hear the last words of the dying girl. Marco, in anger at this outcome of his adventure, pursues the shield bearer to the ramparts and hurls him into the moat, and then returning to his apartment meets with his own retribution, the murdered girl's relatives stabbing him to death and throwing his body from the window.

THE IMPORTUNATE NEIGHBOUR is a really comic comic from this firm. It opens with a very amusing scene of a man in his shirt sleeves vigorously at work with a punching ball affixed to the wall of his breakfast room. On the other side of the wall is a bedchamber to which we are next introduced, and in which a young man is unsuccessfully attempting to sleep through the thuds of the punching ball. Rising, the victim at last proceeds to his neighbour's room to implore him to desist, arriving just as the man, after proudly displaying his muscles to his wife, is engaged in a light spar with the latter. The visitor is quickly kicked out of the room, and as the ball punching recommences looks about for another means of retaliation, drills a hole in the wall and squirts a stream of water over the couple as they are sitting down to breakfast. The husband retaliates by more ball punching, and his neighbour, infuriated, stands a number of skittles against the intervening wall and bowls at them with such force that the pictures on the other side fall down and at last a sideboard topples over and is broken. He follows this up by himself leaping bodily through the wall, and the conclusion shows him having a very warm time at the hands and feet of the athlete.

R. PRIEUR.

ON THE BANKS OF THE SEINE.—This film depicts riverside life in Paris and scenes on the various wharves where coal, flour, and other goods are being landed from barges. There are views of Notre Dame and some of the Paris bridges, including the Bridge of Alexander III., and we also get a glimpse of the Eiffel Tower.

INHERITANCE OF BAPTISTE DURAND.—Baptiste Durand is a stupid person who is bullied by all the family. One day the master reads in a paper of one, Baptiste Durand, who is heir to an immense fortune, and without telling his servant anything the whole family commence to make a great fuss of him, to give him the best of everything and insist on him sleeping in the best bedroom. He even becomes engaged to the daughter, when the whole family are upset by a further advertisement which speaks of one, Francois Durand, Baptiste being an error of the printer!

THE MIRACLE OF THE NECKLACE.—A story of mediæval France, in which we see some fine acting. A strolling minstrel is seen begging food and shelter in vain until he comes to the Cathedral, which he enters, and kneeling at the foot of the Virgin Mary prays for help. The Virgin unfastens the necklace round her neck and places it on the youth's neck and tells him to sell it for food. As he comes out of the Cathedral he is seen by the burgesses and the young fellow is seized as he is leaving a house after selling the necklace and taken before a court. He is tortured in order to extract a confession without avail, and he is taken to the place of execution. As the axe is about to fall the Virgin appears and tells the astonished crowd that the minstrel has told the truth, and restores the necklace to him and sets him free.

LOVE AND VENDETTA.—A splendid scene of rustic nature, on the mountain-side a young couple plighting their troth. During the village fete we again see the young couple. The fathers quarrel seriously, and a vendetta is declared between the two families. The father of the young girl is seen starting for the hunt, and desires her to stay in the house. The lover taking the opportunity in the father's absence comes to the house and succeeds in persuading her to leave with him. On the father's return he is furious and goes in search of them, finding them by the sea, and shoots the young man. The young girl, finding her lover dead, throws herself into the sea, the father finally going mad.

BURGLAR AGAINST HIS WILL.—A man reading in the paper of many burglaries and highway robberies determines to ensure himself against attacks and starts off armed with revolver, hatchet, etc. His many antics are amusing in avoiding supposed highwaymen. He enters a café, and after showing the paragraph in the newspaper he

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spills out his implements of defence to the amused customers, who are themselves burglars and waylay him outside. Taking the things from him, they bring him to his own house, where they make him enter the house by the window. His wife appears, and he is forced to strap the amazed woman, who thinks her husband must be the head of the gang of thieves. He is then made to remove his own furniture, his revolver held at his head, and then to push the truck. On the way they are surprised and he is left to the mercy of the police, who haul him to the police station.

NORDISK FILMS CO

MODERN EGYPT is an interesting film, a companion to that recently issued by this firm illustrating some of the ancient and historical features of the same country. The present film deals principally with the large town of Cairo and Alexandria. The opening shows the landing stage at the latter place and gives an interesting panorama of the bay and its shipping. The views of Cairo include glimpses at the fortifications, the mosques with their tapering pinarets, etc. An Arab wedding procession gives one a glimpse of some topical native types, the invaluable camel sharing with a European carriage the duty of carrying the guests. The Khedive's palace is illustrated, and the railway station, the latter more ornate than the former. A picture of Egypt would not be complete without a glimpse of the Nile and the film gives a very interesting view of the ancient river and the quaint dhows upon it. A journey through the native quarters of the town brings the film to a conclusion.

EDISON

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A ROMANCE OF OLD MADRID.—Our story takes us to the province of Old Madrid, around which has sighed many a tale of love. Paquita, the beauitful daughter of poor peasants, much sought after by adoring village swains and the admiration of strolling painters, makes her first visit to the city of her dreams on a great festival day. She attends the bull fight, and in a very romantic manner she meets Carlos, the famous bull fighter, who pays her undivided attention and presses his suit with all the warmth and ardor of a Spaniard. Afraid of the opposition of her brother a cloud hangs over her happiness, but, as the Governor is to give a Grand Ball, she agrees to elope with Carlos. Carlos selects a friend to make arrangements for the success of the elopement. The festival days draw to a close and the time arrives for the Grand Ball. Paquita is acknowledged Belle everywhere, and in mask and domino the friends attend the ball. The ball is at its height when the friend tells Carlos and Paquita everything is ready. The lovers upon hearing this slip away and are married, and the obliging friend calls later to congratulate the happy pair.

A MODEST YOUNG MAN.—A guileless young man, over-modest, determines to start a crusade against all sights that offend his shrinking nature. An admiring friend sends an innocent picture postcard of a pretty chorus girl. This so gets on his nerves that he has a fit immediately. We next see him beat a blushing retreat from a window where ladies corsets are exhibited. His excitability is next roused at the sight of a theatrical poster. Going through the park he sees an undraped statue of a fountain. A nearby policeman is so amazed at the behaviour of our hero, who drapes his coat around the statue, that he promptly runs him in. At the opera he creates a sensation. Seeing a lady in a low-necked dress he goes off into a dead faint. When he visits some friends and sees the baby in its bath, he stands not upon the order of going, but goes very abruptly. So on through a series of adventures which he relates to his friends, who decide to cure him of his peevishness. Among his friends are a bevy of bright young ladies and they take him in hand and tone down his extreme sensitiveness considerably. Other friends arrange a fitting climax, which causes him to forever forswear his prudish scruples and act like a man of sense.

VITAGRAPH COMPANY OF AMERICA

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE is added to the Vitagraph Company's list of Shakespearian film subjects this week, a story which from its many dramatic incidents lends itself well to picture reproduction having been carried out with due attention to strict accuracy of costume and staging. Beginning with the meeting of Bassanio and Antonio and the former's tale of poverty, the film takes us next to the Rialto, where Shylock grants Bassanio a loan on the famous condition that if the money be not repaid, a pound of Antonio's flesh is to be the penalty. The subject then illustrates the idyll of Lorenzo and Jessica, Jessica's elopement, the children stoning Shylock, Antonio hearing that his ships have gone astray and that he cannot repay Shylock, Bassanio's happy choice of the leaden casket and betrothal to Portia, and finally the famous court scene with its dramatic denouement.

THE FLOWER GIRL OF PARIS.—A French flower girl, ill-treated by two desperadoes whose den she enters with her basket of flowers, wanders out into the streets again offering her wares for sale. A dashing young man descends from an automobile and gives her a bank-note in exchange for a bunch of flowers. At this moment the girl swoons, and the young man lifts her into the motor car and starts for home. The two roughs of the previous scene have watched the episode and follow the car. After food and rest the girl leaves the house accompanied by her protector. After the two have gone some distance the two roughs enter the house and ransack it. Returning to their den they concoct a letter to the young man purporting to come from the girl, and offering to return the stolen goods for a certain amount of money. The girl overhears the plan to capture the young man, and going to the police station returns with a number of officers, who are just in time to overpower the ruffians In the struggle the girl receives a bullet intended for the young man, and expires in the latter's arms

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THE HAZERS.—At a farm house, the farmer and his wife are saying good-bye to their only son, who is going to a military college to study. In the second scene the young man is seen hard at work in his room when he is interrupted by the entrance of a big bully, who after a short visit goes to his own room and with a number of kindred spirits concocts a plan to scare the studious young man. Garbed from head to foot in sheets they enter the hero's study, inform him that he is condemned to death, and force him to go with them. In a clearing in the woods a stump of a tree serves as a dummy execution block, and the young man, with his neck bare, is forced to lay his head on the block, when he is struck a sharp blow on the neck and faints from the nervous strain. The now terrified jokers carry his insensible body back to the college. Two weeks later he has sufficiently recovered from an attack of brain fever to beg that the jokers shall not be expelled, and the latter becoming his firm friends the curtain rings down on a happy ending.

URBAN ECLIPSE-RADIOS

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT was secured by the Urban Co. from a number of well placed stations on the line of route, and illustrates the Yeomen of the Guard marching away after the formal search of the crypts for a possible 20th century Guy Fawkes, the procession at various points, their Majesties alighting at the Victoria Tower, etc.

An interesting addition to the Urban Indian series is issued with the title SCENES ON THE HOOGHLY. Panoramic views of this famous river are given, including fishing and bathing scenes, the traffic on the quay, the temples and palaces on the banks, scenes on the banks, etc. Some remarkable shadow effects on the water are secured, and the film has a decided educational value in addition to its general interest.

The fact that skating enthusiasts in England get so few opportunities for practising this art lends a peculiar interest to living

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...es which show to what an extent practitioners in more ...ed countries have developed their skill. CHAMPION SKATERS ...ELBERG will, however, appeal to others besides skaters as ...lustration of a particularly graceful and difficult form of ...al exercise. The subject shows Herr Hugel, the world's ...ion figure skater, displaying his capabilities by performing ...st complicated figures of which he is capable and has also ...nteresting views of some famous skaters waltzing on the rink ...gelberg.

...o further Urban Eclipse films deal with wintry subjects. ...E SPORTS includes views of practically all the chief amuse- ...indulged in during the winter in a country with a heavy ...fall—tobogganing, ice hockey, etc. The various scenes are set ...e midst of the most delightful scenery and are full of ...orous incidents arising out of the inevitable spills of the ... ICE RACING AT ST. MORITZ is another very interest- ...ries of this character, in which skating, sleighing, ski-ing, ...ganing, etc., are illustrated, the toboggans at times attaining a ...d of sixty miles an hour.

THE CAUMONT CO

THE MAGIC EGGS.—The chef goes to take some eggs out of the basket, and finds it moves from the table to the mantleshelf. He follows it, and again it moves to a chair and finally disappears altogether. He is so astonished that he falls over, and a fairy appears. He bemoans his loss, when the basket suddenly turns up. By means of the fairy's wand the eggs perform various tricks, meanwhile changing colours. The film is a fine example of coloured trick work.

GLORIES OF SUNSET.—The scene depicted is of Cape Martin, and as the sun sets the toning gradually becomes deeper, giving a most beautiful effect. The various scenes shown represent the sun just before it disappears, entitled "Last Rays," the sun having set, entitled "First Shadows," and concludes with a striking view of the bay by moonlight with a ship in full sail passing across the silver reflection on the water.

THE ANONYMOUS LETTER.—Two old schoolfellows, one an high official, the other an officer in the army, meet, and the former introduces his wife. A short while after the official has cause to reprimand his secretary for carelessness, and he, after seeing his master's wife and the officer together, thinks of an idea by which he can be revenged. He writes an anonymous letter which his master receives. The latter, being a jealous man, watches events. Meeting at a social function, he refuses to let his wife speak to his old friend, and heated words follow on both sides. The climax is reached by one challenging the other to a duel. The officer asks his General's permission to fight, and the latter decides if possible to prevent it. He calls on the jealous man and after being shown the letter, happens to notice the same writing on a blotting-pad The secretary is questioned, and at first denies knowing anything of the letter, but admits the blotter is his. After being shown that the two writings agree he confesses and is turned out. Reconciliation between the two friends follows.

Hepwix HEPWORTH MANUFACTURING Co Hepwix

The Hepworth Co. have an excellent trio of films this week, two of particular interest illustrating the various stages of THE CURRANT INDUSTRY and LIFE IN THE INTERIOR OF NORTH BORNEO respectively. The former, secured on a large Greek plantation, is a charming picture, illustrating as it does an industry carried on for the most part in the open, in the midst of a charming countryside. A pretty panorama of a vineyard, with an imposing mountain background, opens the film. The next scene shows us the harvest of the currant grapes at close quarters, numbers of dark-skinned ...es plucking the fruit and packing it into baskets. The next important operation is that of drying and numberless bundles of grapes are seen exposed to the sun in large shallow trays or hung on wooden frames made for the purpose. Next we get a glimpse of the busy scene in the box making shop, where the cases in which the currants are carried all over the world are put together, and an interesting view follows of the cases being put on board a vessel bound for England. A pretty conclusion to the subject shows a child busy in his mother's pantry at a packet of the finished product.

LIFE IN BORNEO is of capital photographic quality right through, but two scenes call for particular praise—one a striking sunset effect over the water, in which the effect of light and shadow is very fine and enhanced by a suitable reddish tint and the other illustrating some of the beauties of one of the rivers of the country—the stream as it rushes over a rocky bed being seen from several different points of view. The film also includes an interesting railway run through the dense wooded country, takes us into a Murat village, where a native party is seen making its way through the thick jungle and shows the operation of mining in full swing. The conclusion shows the chief and his household filing past the camera - an interesting procession.

Hepworth's remaining film is a comic and bears the title MOTHER-IN-LAW HAS ALL THE LUCK. It illustrates the efforts, which are ludicrously unsuccessful, of an unfortunate benedict to persuade his wife's mother to cut her visit short. He begins by sawing the leg of the chair in which the old lady usually sits nearly through, in the hopes that the shock to her nerves from the resulting fall will drive the old lady back to the greater safety of her own home. Unluckily for him, his wife, who is aware of the sentiments he entertains, sees him at work and changes the chairs, with the result that hubby himself gets the tumble. His next step is to bribe a painter, who is supported on a pair of steps at the door of a shop, to drop his paint pot on the old lady as she emerges. The ever watchful wife again discovered his intentions and allows another woman to leave the shop first. The latter gets the paint and hubby has to pay compensation. Persevering, he next places a powder in the old lady's tea-cup. Wifey defeats his plan once more, exchanges the cups, and hubby gets a terrible pain. The culminating misfortune befalls the poor man, when, having planned a burglary to frighten the old lady, he is followed up a ladder and into her bedroom by a watchful policeman, who carries him off to the lock-up.

Eclair.

The Eclair Company have not been long in finding another subject with which to carry on the success of the previous series illustrating the adventures of those two popular heroes, Nick Carter and Rifle Bill. The new series, of which the first subject is issued this week, deals with the more serious subject of THE PERSECUTION OF THE HUGUENOTS, and if the subsequent films come up to the standard of the present one, the firm has secured another line of great attractiveness. With the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Henry XIV. the Huguenots preachers were remorselessly tracked down by the King's troops. Throughout this bitter period of suffering, however, they retained the affection of their peasant congregations, and this film shows how one of the latter risks his own life to save that of his beloved pastor. A peasant hears that a troop of dragoons are on his track, and at once conveys him to his own cottage. Presently the warning comes that the dragoons are coming to the cottage, and the peasant leads the old minister to a cave in a cliff. Returning to his cottage he finds his little daughter in a dying condition, the dragoons having tortured child to extract information. The husband, in revenge hurls a tin of dynamite among them, killing the whole band.

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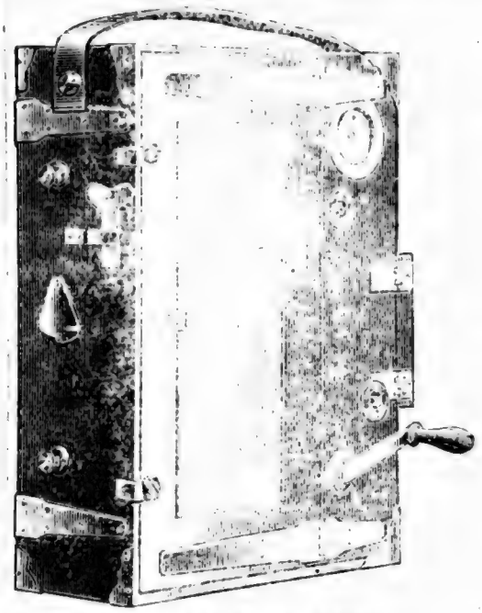

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Inheritance of Baptiste Durand	436 ,,	7	5 4
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Itala Company

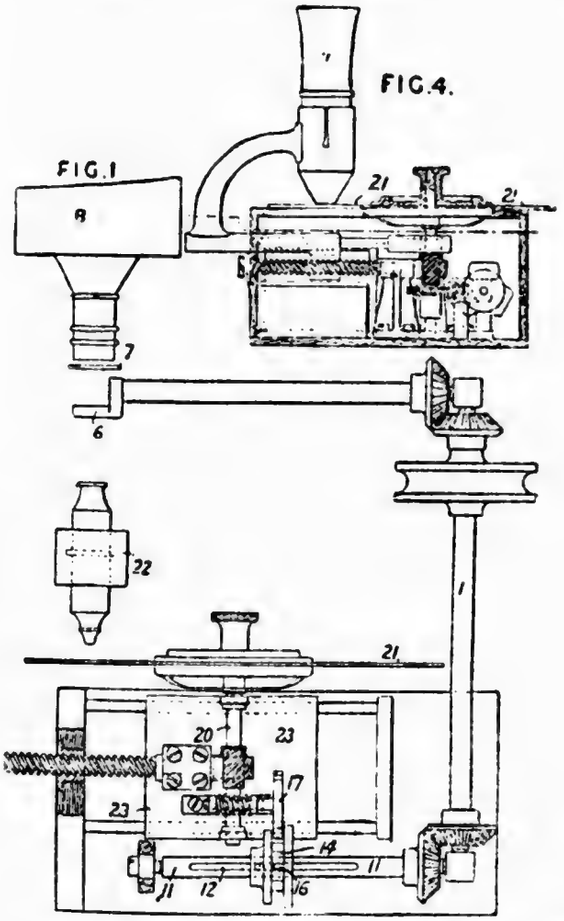
We must congratulate this Italian firm upon the excellence of its [illegible] films, and those who complain of a dearth of comic subjects [illegible] well to give a call to Messrs. Tyler, who are the agents in [illegible] ntry for the Itala films. This week they have two good ones [illegible] E SERVICE OF A FRIEND and WHO HAS SEEN MY HEAD.

A Drawing-Room Kinematograph.

The particulars given below are of an apparatus for microscopically reducing kinematograph pictures, the invention of Messrs. [illegible] and T. Brown. Reduced kinematograph pictures are formed by photographing with a microscope on a sensitive structureless emulsion successive pictures of an ordinary kinematograph film. The pictures are taken on a sensitised disc, to which motion is imparted, so that they are either in spiral form or in concentric rings. The apparatus used is shown in Fig. 1. Rotary motion is imparted to the shaft 1, which through the gearing shown causes a

FIG. 4.

FIG. 1



cr[illegible]s to move the kinematograph film 7 intermittently past the le[illegible] the projecting apparatus 8. The shaft 11 in which there is a [illegible]2, is also caused to rotate, and by means of a pin 16 on the b[illegible] slidingly keyed to it, causes intermittent rotation of a M[illegible] cross 17 which imparts motion to the shaft 20, carrying the se[illegible]ed plate 21, and also, through the gearing shown, to the co[illegible]e 23 on which it is mounted. By this means the disc 21 has an[illegible]rmittent motion of rotation and translation imparted to it, a[illegible]is motion is caused to take place during the motion of the fil[illegible] The pictures are taken by the microscope 22. Apparatus wi[illegible] may be used for viewing the pictures is shown in Fig. 4, and is [illegible]ilar to the apparatus described above, excepting that the microscope 41 is given a longitudinal motion and the disc 21 only a rotary motion. Any living picture film can be reduced in the manner described and viewed through the microscope.

Some Experiences with an Ether Saturator.

I always associated ether saturators with explosions and unextinguishable flares-up, so that it was with much trepidation that I ventured on the purchase of one. The makers told me in an airy sort of way to "just fill it with ether, connect up your tubing—and there you are." I fondly hoped it would not be a case of there you are *not*, and filling up as per their instructions and connecting tubing I turned on ether and very gingerly with a long taper applied a light. All went well; I gained courage and ventured to turn on a little oxygen; still all went well. I stood admiring the light for a moment, when the beastly thing nearly went out. I turned on more ether, and up flew the flame but in a moment down it went again to a mere speck. I turned on yet more ether and up flew the flame once more—and then a most fearful bang took place, scaring me out of the room.

Nothing more happened, so I once more ventured in and hastily turned off all the taps and waited, still doubtful whether the wretched thing might not yet fly up.

After a short space of time and a long Scotch and soda I plucked up courage and attacked the fearsome object again, starting from the beginning. It repeated its weird flares-up, but instead of another expected bang a very gruesome, gurgling noise sounded in its interior. I turned and fled—and heard another loud report as I reached the garden. Returning (after another Scotch and soda), I turned off all the taps and went up to see the makers.

After I had unfolded my tale of woe they said, "Oh, you put in too much ether" (they had said fill it, and that is all I had done). It appears you should blow out all the free liquid ether, but nothing was said as to this on purchasing.

I later on had another try, and took the precaution of "blowing-out" (a nastier job it is difficult to imagine), and this time was fairly successful, but forty minutes to an hour was the longest the light would last, and as the makers had guaranteed three hours I again visited them. This time I was met with the reply, "Of course, you must warm it." I failed to see where the "of course" came in. Was I to know by instinct that it ought to have been warmed?

I found that by burning a night light underneath the saturator (about 18 in. below) I got a good light that has lasted me now for the longest lecture with plenty to spare, but even now I sometimes fear I may get the saturator too warm and cause (as I have just learnt is easily possible) the ether to boil and spurt out of the jet with, as a friend mildly put it, "rather unpleasant results."

Now what I would like to know is, why has one to find out how to use a saturator instead of receiving full instructions on purchasing? Why is not some means supplied for warming, such as a box on which the saturator could stand and in which, say, a night-light could be burnt; the box to be of sufficient size to keep the saturator at right temperature?

I really think the makers might be a little more helpful.

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A laughable absurdity. A policeman, in an encounter with a hooligan, has his head swept completely off his shoulders. The missing member passes through many hands and s arties a good many honest people, while its unfortunate owner cannot find it. At last the head falls into the possession of the police, and the Commissioner returns it to the wife of the rightful owner with a polite note advising greater care in future. The head arrives just as the officer is explaining to his wife how he came to lose it, and throws him into a transport of joy.

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Persecution of the Huguenots

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Hints on Illuminants.

By Millard Johnson.

[Mr Johnson is a partner in the Melbourne firm of Johnson and Gibson, and at present in London buying for his firm. The following hints culled from many years' experience of the trade should prove invaluable to many operator readers.]

As many bioscope operators have no opportunity of becoming conversant with limelight as it is used in Australia the following may prove of interest to those who desire to gain an insight into foreign ideas. My late father—W. W. Johnson, the Government analyst of Victoria—and myself have now supplied oxygen for over fifty years for limelight, originally in one bag mixed with hydrogen, and the burner supplied was a single tap brass tube about six inches long and tightly filled with No. 36 brass wire to prevent backfiring, the bag being weighted with bricks. On one occasion a boy assistant was used for this purpose, but, like a boy, got tired and slid off—and so did the mixed gases and a portion of the roof and windows. After that we introduced the blow through and two separate bags for the gases.

Bags being always prone to leak by the law of diffusion, the next step was tank gas and some novel Australian ideas of retorts were made, discarding the well known funnel retort as being too slow to empty and charge. The bottoms are now made of ordinary patty tins and fitted to heavy brass tops with a simple lever attachment so that a charge of ¾ lb. of mixed chlorate and peroxide of manganese (5 to 1) yielding about four feet of oxygen is now the universally used method for small shows and is charged at the side of the lantern, six re-fills for a night show being necessary; the changing takes one minute only, and at present one tube leads from the tank to a four-barrelled gasolene saturator (15 in. by 2 in. tubes) packed with flannel and is the method of producing so-called "hydrogen."

Innumerable fires have been caused by these—(1) overloading the tubes with gasolene and the liquid flowing through and firing everything in reach; (2) By the saturator running dry and the tube becoming filled with oxygen and only enough gasolene vapour to produce an explosive mixture. This mixture has an igniting temperature so low that the cold brass of the lamp does not prevent the backfiring, and reports like revolver shots ensue, and in some cases the heavy brass tubes have burst asunder with a noise like a cannon, scattering burning flannel material in all directions and causing stampedes. To prevent this, hot water bottles and hot bricks are placed on the saturator, but in winter time the last parts of a long show are always most dangerous with such a method of producing "hydrogen."

About ten years ago I introduced cylinders and these are for local use vastly superior in producing the light needed for kinematograph pictures but the cost of country carriage makes these a great expense for small shows, gas being retailed at 4d. a foot for oxygen; but I have entirely given up the heavy English cylinder and use only the light, convenient German cylinders which stand higher pressures and only half the weight, with the extra advantage of easy turning taps.

Best results for long distance touring shows are given by the water pressure tank (about 7 ft. by 3 ft.), and is the charge from a heavy iron retort holding about 4 lbs. of the chlorate mixture and heated with a Primus stove. A good operator always charges this tank before the show and again at the ten minutes' interval, and obtains a light equal to 25 amperes direct current. Needless to say this tank is fixed outside the house and gas let in by 1 in. water hose tubing. Oxylith is occasionally met with but the expense is so enormous as to prohibit its use—this being a peroxide of sodium mixture, which, on addition of water gives off a pure oxygen gas and leaves a caustic soda solution behind.

Jets.—The Gwyer and Locke are the most used and with cylinders and gasolene saturators gives at the best a light equal to 25 amperes direct current and a pleasing 16 ft. picture can be well lit.

The temperature of gas influences the light. On liberating compressed gas from cylinders the temperature falls to about 34 degrees Fahrenheit and if this gas is warmed by passing through a coil of ¼ inch copper tubing fixed in the lantern house over the lime, and before it enters the jet a vastly improved light is obtained and noiseless in combustion There is no danger in heating oxygen alone to any temperature.

Contents of a cylinder are easily gauged by understanding Boyles law—"The volume of a gas is the inverse of its pressure."

The usual cylinders met with are so-called 20 ft., 40 ft. or 60 ft. and hold 1, 2 or 3 gallons of water respectively.

1 atmosphere =
15 lb. pressure and 6 galls. = 1 cubic foot

The 20 ft. cylinder at

15 lb. press.	=	1 atmos.	& contains	1 gall. gas	=	1 cubic ft.			
450 ,,	,,	,, 30	,,	,,	30	,,	,,	5	,,
900 ,,	,,	,, 60	,,	,,	60	,,	,,	10	,,
1800 ,,	,,	,, 120	,,	,,	120	,,	,,	20	,,

The 40 ft. cylinder at

15 lb. press.	=	1 atmos.	& contains	2 gall. gas	=				
450 ,,	,,	,, 30	,,	,,	60	,,	,,	10	cub. ft.
900 ,,	,,	,, 60	,,	,,	120	,,	,,	20	,,
1800 ,,	,,	,, 120	,,	,,	240	,,	,,	40	,,

Find the pressure in atmospheres and divide by 6, this gives cubic feet and multiply by the water gallon holding capacity of cylinder.

The pressure of a cylinder is reduced by a regulator, and of these the rubber bellows is the one that causes most annoyance as oxygen quickly hardens and cracks rubber, and metallic bellows are now invariably used by us. The real carbonic acid gas regulator with spring attachments for giving any pressure from ¼ to 40 lb. are the best for bioscopic use.

Limes.—Too large a lime allows too much heat to be wasted by conduction, and the best light is obtained from 1 inch limes, anything larger always giving less light with the same burner.

Alternating current.—This is mostly used in Melbourne and we have now no trouble with this current which is supplied us by a single 14 wire, giving us only about 10 amperes at 200 volts and fused with 10 ampere fuse; this makes the wiring easy and cheap. We carry a portable transformer weighing about 50 lbs. This transforms a 10 ampere current at 200 volts to 50 amperes at 40 volts at no appreciable loss, and 10 amperes at 200 volts equals two units per hour, costing 1s. per hour. We have always over a dozen working every night.

Carbons.—A 16 mm. or 18 mm. coved carbon of very best quality (Siemens or Conradi Norris) and flattened by filing on one side produces the so-called B section carbon. Place the flat side to the condenser and the light is nearly equal to direct with very little more trouble.

Everlasting Carbons.—A new idea is here suggested. Carbons burn away on account of the air containing oxygen, and this unites with the white hot carbon forming CO_2, but if a glass cylinder lamp glass be put round the carbons so as to exclude fresh air, then the carbons will not burn away at all and no buzzing noise will occur with alternating current as this may be due to the explosions which take place when oxygen of the air and carbon combine in a constricted place when the carbons are so close together.

Again, if the lamp house could be made practically air-tight and no ventilation, then the carbons would last longer and give less noise and more light.

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*Miracle of the Necklace... ...	901
*Inheritance of Baptiste Durand	436
*Excursion on the Seine	327

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Compassion	—
United by Misfortune	—

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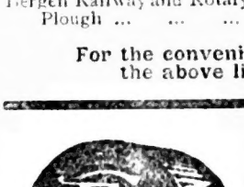

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Round the Shows.

shall be glad if Showmen and Exhibitors will send us their Programmes, List of Films, or any information respecting their doings

ingle's Picture Palace, Edinburgh, had for its chief week Rifle Bill Caught in a Trap and Wilbur Wright's lane.

e Dublin Rotunda, one of the most successful permanent theatres in the three countries, last week showed the following The Earthquake, Fountains of Versailles, Scenic Sicily, Trip gh Savoy, Woman Chauffeur, and others.

r. Walter C. Davis put in his last week at the Tredegar Hall, , with a fine selection of films, comic, dramatic and travel ilfully interspersed. The chief subjects were Tour in Brittany, on the 'Phone, Rifle Bill, Ib and Little Christina, Baby's Cham, oldier's Heroism.

he B. B. B. Pictures. by common consent easily surpassed previous best in the selection of films projected at the Gilfillan Dundee, last week, when the chief subjects were Retribution, mas Eve Dream, and The Roller Skating Craze, supported by films of recent issue and a number of good variety turns.

he Pavilion, Sunderland.—Rifle Bill Caught in a Trap is liner of this increasingly popular picture hall, the manage having, however, taken the wise step of changing the hero's to the more popular one of Buffalo Bill. Among other films Mummer's Daughter and Gambling for Gold.

The Central Hall, Colne.—The Premier Pictures of Mr. J. worth, shown by the Chrono, for this week include Towards North Pole, Imitation Craze, Harvest of the Sea, Spectre of the , Choosing a Fiancé, Human Wheel, Jessica's First Prayer, 's First Trial and Braving Death to Save a Child.

Mr. Sydney Carter's New Century Pictures were last week at Municipal Institute, Keighley, when the chief numbers were A Heart, Enchanted Sword, Conscientious Musician, The First Chemistry Experiment, and others. The Cinephone was ditional attraction and was generously applauded.

Mr. Ralph D. Fenton writes that the entertainment under his gement at the New Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness, opened on ay to a very large audience, the chief films being The Tempest, Hero, The Locket, Cavalier's Wife, Missionary's Daughter, Ib attle Christina, Charmer, Nurses' Race, Animated Posters, and

e Tottenham People's Palace, where Mr. John Wood es for the Walturdaw Company with marked success, is this making the following films its headliners: New Century Thieves, s First Prayer, Unlucky Jim, and Voice From the Dead. shows are given nightly at popular prices and a special show every ay evening.

e Shaftesbury Hall, Swansea.—Mr. William Coutts, for Mr. E. Huxtable is acting manager, continues to make living s the attraction at this establishment. The current week's films le Getting Father's Consent, Two's Company Three's a Crowd, Old Tar, Shoemaker of Coepenick, Harvest of the Sea, Royalist's and many others.

e increasing popularity of Newman's Picture Palace, e, was strikingly demonstrated last week, when large crowds resent at every performance. A first-class selection of films d a picture of the Rangers-Dundee Cup Tie and The Mystery vin Drood. A barrel boxing competition for boys created much ment, and Zenora, a clever hand jumper, gave a keenly appreci- rn

he King's Theatre, Nottingham, finds living pictures still at attraction. Last week the film of the Tottenham Outrage, Letmere's Jewellery, Broken Vow, and Tommy Visits his Aunt the chief films. Mr. Ernie Williams has a couple of capital songs, and Mr. Rob Chamberlain accompanies on the piano with sual skill.

The Central Hall, Sheffield, had a very strong bill last week, variety entertainment including Pete and Minnie Lee, Mr. F. S. lbert, and Harry R. Luck. Among the pictures the chief features are Spectre of the Plains and After Many Years. At the Albert Hall of this town the London Animated Company entered upon the second week of its visit, and enjoyed big audiences.

Mr. Ralph Pringle, at the Public Hall, Rochdale, as usual has a liberal supply of striking posters in all kinds of type and colours, one being devoted to the chief subject for the week, Mary Stuart. Among the supporting subjects are Wrong Medicine, Kaleidoscope, Jealous Old Maid, Chauffeur and the Cab Woman, An Awful Moment, Policeman for an Hour, Professor's Trip to the Country and A Good Tip.

The Gaiety, Aberdeen.—Mr. Dove Paterson's Electrographic Pictures for this week include Sold to Thieves, Going to Market, Barbara Fritchie, Lost Handkerchief, Love Stronger Than Revenge, The Cinephone, which is now an essential part of the Gaiety programme, renders "My Girl's a Yorkshire Girl" and "For Ever and For Ever." Mr. Dove Paterson is very topical in his pictorial trip for the week, which is to Berlin, and excites a good deal of interest in view of King Edward's recent visit to the German Emperor.

Mr. William Coutts, at the Palace, Swansea, is featuring Trainer's Vengeance, Custom Officer's Sweetheart, Harvest of the Sea, Coast Guard's Son, Great Military Hunt, The Mail Attacked, Saved by a Dream, Barber's Christening, Two's Company Three's a Crowd, Sold to Thieves, Strong Woman, False Superintendent, The Bank Burglar, and others. Three talented artistes, the Misses Therese and Burt and Mr. D. L. Thomas, render illustrated songs and the gramophone selections continue to be popular. Mr. S. J. Powell is the capable acting manager.

The Palace and Hippodrome, Staveley. For the week beginning February 15th Mr. Herbert Rogers inaugurates at this hall a system of changing the pictures twice weekly. The selection featured on Monday included The Bargain Sale, The Latch Key, Tomkins Buys a Donkey, The Wish Bone, Adventures of a Watch, Nick Carter in The Bank Burglars, Hercules the Athlete, Kindhearted Bootblack, Farmer's Daughter, The Press Gang, and Guardian of the Bank. Last week Mr. Rogers scored by putting on a film of the Berlin visit of the King and Queen on Thursday, a piece of quick work for which he was rewarded by big houses. Mr. Rogers is making a big feature of his Sunday special show. Last Sunday's films included The Swashbuckler, Trainer's Daughter, Sailor's Revenge, Lake Maggiore, Removing Fangs From Puff Adder, Son's Crime, Wilbur Wright's Aeroplane, Orphans, and Habits of the Tree Frog.

Mr. A. Tetlow, of Moss's Empire fame, besides his work of keeping the halls of this big combination supplied with pictures, has now several halls under his control in which living pictures occupy the most important position. He sends us the week's bills for three of these establishments. At the Theatre Royal, Croydon, the subjects include The Anarchist, The Rested Thief, Cumbersome Game, Duty v. Revenge, Tommy and the Sticktite, Wilbur Wright's Aeroplane, Doctor's Discovery and Sunshine After Storm. The Imperial Hall, Walsall, is another establishment featuring pictures and is showing the following subjects:—The Lion Tamer, Taking Home the Eggs, The Hawk and its Prey, In Search of Oblivion, Sports in Toyland, Karrie Snation, Commander's Armour and The Stepmother. At Stoll's Panopticon, the Philharmonic Hall, Cardiff, the feature subject is The Mystery of Edwin Drood, this being supported by Domesticated Elephants, Industries and Sports in Burmah, Unfortunate Neighbours, Moorish Cavalry and the Aged Paralytic.

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Where there's a will there's a way,	675
The valet's legacy, dramatic	410
The absent minded professor, comic	490
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